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LAWS

OF

THE TORONTO
Literary Association.

INSTITUTED 7th JULY, 1853.

"Scire Volunt Omnes."—JUV.

READING makes a full man ; WRITING, a correct man ; and
SPEAKING, a ready man."—BACON.

TORONTO:

PRINTED AT THE LEADER OFFICE, KING STREET.

1857.

Box 4

1871

THE TORONTO

Association

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OF THE TORONTO ASSOCIATION

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At the Annual General Meeting of the Association, held on the 6th day of November, 1856, the name of the Society was changed from "The Toronto Literary and Debating Society," to "THE TORONTO LITERARY ASSOCIATION." At that time numerous suggestions were made for alterations in the laws, which were submitted to a General Committee of the Office-Bearers, with power to amend the laws. The Committee subsequently reported to the Association the following Rules, which were adopted and ordered to be printed for the use of Members.

JAMES BEATY,
President.

W. B. SULLIVAN,
Secretary.

**THE TORONTO
LITERARY ASSOCIATION.**

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THOMAS HODGINS, B. A., STUDENT AT LAW.

JOHN HOLLAND, MERCHANT.

Secretary, pro tem :

ALFRED HOWELL, STUDENT AT LAW.

Assistant Secretary :

Treasurer :

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Councillors :

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WALTER R. McDONALD, B. A. |**

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- Jones, Rev. Joseph.
- ✓ Judge, Edgar.

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- ✓ O'Donohoe, J.

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✓ Wright, James.

Young, F. H.

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OF
THE TORONTO
Literary Association.

THE TORONTO LITERARY ASSOCIATION, instituted for the Cultivation of Literature and Public Speaking, enacts the following Rules and Regulations :—

Section I.—General Laws.

ARTICLE 1. This Society shall be called "THE TORONTO LITERARY ASSOCIATION."

ARTICLE 2. All Subjects shall be open for debate except such as involve the Christian Religion.

ARTICLE 3. No alteration of the laws shall be made except at the Annual General Meeting, and that with the consent of two-thirds of the Members present at such meeting.

ARTICLE 4. All essays read before the Society shall be considered the property of the Society, and as such shall be delivered to the Secretary.

Section II.—Members.

ARTICLE 1. This Society shall consist of Ordinary, Honorary, and Corresponding Members.

I. Ordinary Members.

ARTICLE 2. Ordinary Members shall consist of gentlemen resident in Toronto.

ARTICLE 3. Any gentleman desirous of being admitted an Ordinary Member, shall be recommended by one of the members, in open meeting.

ARTICLE 4. The Election to take place on the meeting following after such recommendation ; and to be decided by a show of hands.

ARTICLE 5. Each Ordinary Member shall subscribe to the Laws, and shall pay an admission fee of at least seven shillings and six pence, to be his first year's subscription, and afterwards an annual contribution of seven shillings and six pence, to be paid to the Treasurer, and to contribute any further sum that may be imposed by a vote of an ordinary meeting.

ARTICLE 6. No Ordinary Member shall be entitled to vote or take any part in the proceedings of the Society, while his admission fee, annual contributions, or fines, remain unpaid.

II. Honorary Members.

ARTICLE 7. Honorary Members shall be persons thought deserving of the honor by the Society.

ARTICLE 8. Honorary Members shall be proposed by a written motion read to the Society at two separate meetings previous to the meeting for election, and to be elected by a three-fourths vote of such meeting.

ARTICLE 9. Honorary Members shall be entitled to all the privileges of the Society, but shall be exempt from compulsory duties and payment of contributions.

III. Corresponding Members.

ARTICLE 10. Corresponding Members shall consist of persons residing out of the City of Toronto, desirous of contributing to the objects of the Society.

ARTICLE 11. Corresponding Members shall be elected in the same manner as Ordinary Members, and shall be exempted from the payment of fees, and all compulsory duties.

Section III.—Office Bearers.

ARTICLE 1. The Office Bearers of this Society shall consist of a President, three Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, an Assistant Secretary, a Treasurer, and five Councillors, who shall manage the affairs of the Society.

ARTICLE 2. The Office Bearers shall be elected annually by ballot, by the majority present at the "Annual General Meeting" to be held for that purpose on the first Thursday in November.

ARTICLE 3. Members to be eligible as Office Bearers of the Society shall be nominated at the ordinary meeting immediately preceding the Meeting of Election.

I. President and Vice-Presidents.

ARTICLE 4. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all Meetings of the Society, or in his absence one of the Vice-Presidents, or in their absence a chairman chosen by the meeting.

ARTICLE 5. At the first meeting after the "Annual General Meeting" an introductory address shall be delivered by the President Elect.

II. The Secretary.

ARTICLE 6. The Secretary shall keep an accurate list of the names of the members, and shall obtain their signatures to the laws in a copy kept by himself, in which also he shall insert all alterations, which may from time to time be made in the Constitution and Laws of the Society.

ARTICLE 7. He shall make minutes in a proper book of the business at all meetings of the Society.

ARTICLE 8. He shall at every meeting read the minutes of the previous meeting, and also the minutes of the Committee of Management.

ARTICLE 9. He shall conduct the correspondence of the Society, arrange the business of the meetings, and bring it before the Society in the order prescribed in Section IV., Article 9.

ARTICLE 10. The Essayist and debaters for each ordinary meeting shall be appointed by the Secretary, with the approval of any two members of the Committee of Management. The leading debaters to be chosen only with their consent.

ARTICLE 11. He shall intimate in writing to members not present, the duties they may be required to perform under Section 4.

ARTICLE 12. He shall be a member of all Committees without being specially named on them.

ARTICLE 13. He shall be required at the Annual General Meeting in November, in each year, to furnish

to the Society a statement of the affairs of the Society certified by the Committee of Management.

III. The Assistant Secretary.

ARTICLE 14. The Assistant Secretary shall aid the Secretary generally in the performance of his duties.

IV. The Treasurer.

ARTICLE 15. The Treasurer shall collect the admission fees, annual contributions, and in general the whole funds of the Society, and shall be responsible for the same when so collected to the Society.

ARTICLE 16. He shall keep regular Accounts and Minutes of all his transactions in reference to the affairs of the Society.

ARTICLE 17. The Treasurer shall be required at the Annual General Meeting, in each year, to furnish the Society with a statement of the financial affairs of the Society certified by the Committee of Management.

V. Committee of Management.

ARTICLE 18. Each Member of the Committee shall, at each meeting of the Society, hand to the Secretary, in writing, at least one debateable question to be entered by the Secretary in the Case Book, from which questions the one to be debated at the following meeting, shall be by them chosen under the penalty prescribed by Section V.

ARTICLE 19. They shall select and appoint questions for Debate according to the preceding Article under the penalty for each default prescribed by Section V.

Section IV.—Meetings.

ARTICLE 1. The Meetings of the Society shall be either PRIVATE OR PUBLIC.

ARTICLE 2. The Meetings of the Society shall, during the *first period* from the first of November to the first of June, be held "weekly," on each Thursday; and during the second period, from the first of June to the first of November, "monthly," on the first Thursday of each month. The hour of meeting in all cases to be seven o'clock, P. M.

ARTICLE 3. Meetings of the Committee of Management, or Special Meetings of the Society, may be called by the President himself, or at the request of any five Members of the Society.

I. Private Meetings.

ARTICLE 4. Private Meetings shall be held to be the ordinary meetings of the Society.

II. Public Meetings.

ARTICLE 5. At Public Meetings the Public at large shall be admitted, subject always to the authority of the chair.

ARTICLE 6. During the *first period* above mentioned, each *fourth* regular meeting shall be a *Public Meeting*; and during the *second period* each second regular meeting shall be a *Public Meeting*.

ARTICLE 7. At Public Meetings no preliminary business (except the proposal and admission, and introduction of new members) shall be transacted.

ARTICLE 8. The Chairman for each Public Meeting shall be appointed by the Committee of Management.

ARTICLE 9. The Essayist and Debaters for each Public Meeting shall be selected by ballot at the ordinary meeting next preceding such Public Meeting.

ARTICLE 10. The time allowed, for speaking, to each Debater shall be limited at Public Meetings to twenty minutes, and to the Leaders in their replies five minutes.

III. Conduct of Business.

ARTICLE 11. An Essay shall be read and a question debated at each meeting of the Society.

ARTICLE 12. The business of the Society shall, at each meeting after the chair has been taken, proceed in the following order, with the exception set forth in Article 7. Sec. IV, for Public Meetings :—

1. Reading the Minutes.
2. Notices of motion given.
3. Motions discussed and other business transacted.
4. Proposal of new members.
5. Admission and introduction of new members.
6. Delivery of the Essay for the evening.
7. The Debate for the evening.
8. The Chairmans review of the arguments.
9. The decision of the question according to article 19—section IV.

ARTICLE 13. Every notice of motion, and motion, before being read to the Society, shall be first handed to the Secretary, in writing, with the names of the mover and seconder.

ARTICLE 14. In case of an equality of votes on any question, before the Society, the chairman presiding shall have the casting vote.

ARTICLE 15. One of the members shall, under the direction of the Committee of Management, be required either in person or by substitution of another member to deliver an Essay to the Society.

ARTICLE 16. No Essayist shall occupy more than twenty minutes in the delivery of his Essay.

ARTICLE 17. No member shall speak twice during the same Debate, except the leaders on the Affirmative and Negative, who shall have liberty to reply after the other Debaters have spoken.

ARTICLE 18. No Debater at any ordinary meeting shall be allowed to occupy the floor for a longer time than fifteen minutes, nor the leaders of the Debate in their replies, than five minutes.

ARTICLE 19. The Question Debated at each Private Meeting shall, after a summing up of the merits by the Chairman, be decided at the close of the Debate by the majority of the members present: and at each Public Meeting by the majority of both the members and visitors present.

ARTICLE 21. The decision of the chair on questions of order shall be final.

ARTICLE 22. The members shall be entitled to introduce their friends to the meeting, but no stranger shall be permitted to take any part in the Business of the Society.

ARTICLE 23. No motion for the expulsion of a member shall be made without two weeks previous notice; and no member shall be expelled without the concurrence of the majority of the members present; to be ascertained by Ballot.

Section V.—Fines.

The following Table of Fines shall be imposed under Sec. IV., and members withholding payment of the same when incurred, shall be liable to expulsion:—

1. Failure by Committee of Management in giving to Secretary the Questions required under Article 18. Sec. III. each.....	0s.	7½d.
2. The failure of Committee of Management in appointing Questions for debate each.....	1s.	3d.
3. Failure in reading Essay.....	2s.	6d.
4. Failure of Leaders in opening Debate each	2s.	6d.
5. Non attendance of Debaters or their appointed Substitutes.....	0s.	7½d.
6. Disobedience to the chair; discretionary with the chair; but not to exceed.....	10s.	0d.

Section VI.—By-Laws.

1. The following motions shall be in order at any time, and at any meeting :

- (a) To adjourn the Meeting.
- (b) To Postpone the Discussion.
- (c) To refer to the General Committee.

2. The General Committee shall meet on the evening of each Meeting of the Association, at 7 o'clock.

3. There shall be the following Sub-Committees of the General Committee.

(a) On Debates and Essays.

(b) On Finance.

(c) On Laws.

4. Vacancies in the Offices of the Association during the year shall be filled up in the same manner as at the Annual General Meeting.

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